

What is claimed is:

1. A toner having a storage elastic modulus ( $G'$ ) of from 500 Pa to 10,500 Pa at a frequency of 1 Hz and temperature of 180°C,

wherein the toner is formed from a toner composition which comprises a binder resin containing a modified polyester resin (i) capable of reacting with a compound having an active hydrogen group,

the toner composition is subjected to one of dissolution and dispersion in an organic solvent so as to form one of a solution and a dispersion,

one of the solution and the dispersion is subjected to reaction with a compound having an active hydrogen group, while being dispersed in an aqueous medium containing fine resin particles which have an average particle diameter of 500 nm or less,

the obtained aqueous dispersion is subjected to removal of a solvent thereof so as to obtain the toner.

2. A toner according to Claim 1, wherein the storage elastic modulus ( $G'$ ) is from 700 Pa to 7,000 Pa at a frequency of 1 Hz and temperature of 180°C.

3. A toner according to Claim 1, wherein the binder resin comprises a modified polyester resin (i) and a

non-modified polyester resin (ii), wherein the weight ratio of the modified polyester resin (i) to the non-modified polyester resin (ii), is from 5/95 to 75/25.

4. A toner according to Claim 1, wherein the binder resin has an acid value of from 0.5 mgKOH/g to 40 mgKOH/g.

5. A toner according to Claim 1, wherein the binder resin has a glass transition temperature (T<sub>g</sub>) of from 40°C to 70°C.

6. A toner according to Claim 1, wherein the fine resin particles are particles of one of a vinyl resin, a polyurethane resin, an epoxy resin, a polyester resin, and a mixture thereof.

7. A toner according to Claim 1, wherein the fine resin particles have an average particle diameter of from 5 nm to 500 nm.

8. A toner according to Claim 1, wherein the fine resin particles have a volume average particle diameter of from 4 μm to 8 μm.

9. A toner according to Claim 1, wherein the toner consists of toner particles which have a ratio of a volume average particle diameter ( $D_v$ ) to a number average particle diameter ( $D_n$ ) being from 1.10 to 1.25.

10. A toner according to Claim 1, wherein the toner consists of toner particles which have an average circularity of 0.90 to 0.96.

11. A toner according to Claim 1, wherein the toner consists of toner particles which are in a spindle shape.

12. A toner according to Claim 1, wherein the toner consists of toner particles in which the toner particles have a major axis  $r_1$ , a minor axis  $r_2$ , and a thickness  $r_3$ ,

a ratio of the major axis  $r_1$  to the minor axis  $r_2$  is from 0.5 to 0.8 and a ratio of the thickness  $r_3$  to the minor axis  $r_2$  is from 0.7 to 1.0.

13. A toner according to Claim 1, wherein the removal of the solvent is carried out by at least one of stirring and heating of the aqueous dispersion.

14. A developer comprising:

a toner having a storage elastic modulus ( $G'$ )

of from 500 Pa to 10,500 Pa at a frequency of 1 Hz and temperature of 180°C,

wherein a toner composition of the toner, comprises a binder resin which comprises a modified polyester resin (i) capable of reacting with a compound having an active hydrogen group,

the toner composition is subjected to one of dissolution and dispersion in an organic solvent so as to form one of a solution and a dispersion,

one of the solution and the dispersion is subjected to a reaction with a compound having an active hydrogen group, while being dispersed in an aqueous medium containing fine resin particles which have an average particle diameter of 500 nm or less,

the obtained aqueous dispersion is subjected to removal of a solvent thereof so as to obtain the toner.

15. An image-forming process, comprising the steps of:

uniformly charging a surface of a photoconductor and emitting light to the surface of the photoconductor imagewise so as to form a latent electrostatic image on the photoconductor;

supplying a toner to the surface of the photoconductor so that the latent electrostatic image is

visualized to form a toner image on the photoconductor;  
transferring the toner image to a recording medium;  
and

recovering the remained toner on the  
photoconductor after the step of transferring and re-using  
the recovered toner in the step of supplying,

wherein the toner have a storage elastic modulus  
( $G'$ ) of from 500 Pa to 10,500 Pa at a frequency of 1 Hz and  
temperature of 180°C,

wherein the toner is formed from a toner  
composition which comprises a binder resin containing a  
modified polyester resin (i) capable of reacting with a  
compound having an active hydrogen group,

the toner composition is subjected to one of  
dissolution and dispersion in an organic solvent so as to  
form one of a solution and a dispersion,

one of the solution and the dispersion is subjected to  
a reaction with a compound having an active hydrogen  
group, while being dispersed in an aqueous medium  
containing fine resin particles which have an average  
particle diameter of 500 nm or less,

the obtained aqueous dispersion is subjected to  
removal of a solvent thereof so as to obtain the toner.

16. A toner container comprising:

a container; and  
a developer loaded in the container  
wherein the developer comprises a toner,  
the toner having a storage elastic modulus ( $G'$ ) of  
from 500 Pa to 10,500 Pa at a frequency of 1 Hz and  
temperature of 180°C,

wherein the toner is formed of a toner composition  
which comprises a binder resin containing a modified  
polyester resin (i) capable of reacting with a compound  
having an active hydrogen group,

the toner composition is subjected to one of  
dissolution and dispersion in an organic solvent so as to  
form one of a solution and a dispersion,

one of the solution and the dispersion is subjected to  
a reaction with a compound having an active hydrogen  
group, while being dispersed in an aqueous medium  
containing fine resin particles which have an average  
particle diameter of 500 nm or less,

the obtained aqueous dispersion is subjected to a  
removal of a solvent thereof so as to obtain the toner.

17. An image-forming apparatus, comprising:  
a photoconductor;  
a developing unit configured to supplying a  
toner to a latent electrostatic image formed on the

photoconductor so as to form a toner image;

a transfer unit configured to transfer the toner image to a recording medium; and

a recycle unit configured to recover the remained toner on the photoconductor after the toner image is transferred, and re-use the toner in the developing unit,

wherein the toner has a storage elastic modulus ( $G'$ ) of from 500 Pa to 10,500 Pa at a frequency of 1 Hz and temperature of 180°C,

wherein a toner composition of the toner, comprises a binder resin which comprises a modified polyester resin (i) capable of reacting with a compound having an active hydrogen group,

the toner composition is subjected to one of dissolution and dispersion in an organic solvent so as to form one of a solution and a dispersion,

one of the solution and the dispersion is subjected to react with a compound having an active hydrogen group, while being dispersed in an aqueous medium containing fine resin particles which have an average diameter of 500 nm or less,

the obtained aqueous dispersion is subjected to removal of a solvent thereof so as to obtain the toner.

18. A process cartridge comprising:  
a photoconductor; and  
a developing unit configured to supply a toner to the surface of the photoconductor so that a latent electrostatic image formed on the photoconductor is visualized to form a toner image,  
wherein the toner has a storage elastic modulus ( $G'$ ) of from 500 Pa to 10,500 Pa at a frequency of 1 Hz and temperature of 180°C,  
wherein the toner is formed from a toner composition which comprises a binder resin containing a modified polyester resin (i) capable of reacting with a compound having an active hydrogen group,  
the toner composition is subjected to one of dissolution and dispersion in an organic solvent so as to form one of a solution and a dispersion,  
one of the solution and the dispersion is subjected to a reaction with a compound having an active hydrogen group, while being dispersed in an aqueous medium containing fine resin particles which have an average particle diameter of 500 nm or less,  
the obtained aqueous dispersion is subjected to a removal of a solvent thereof so as to obtain the toner.